

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-9, 11, 12, 14-18, 20, 21 and 23-29 are pending in the above identified patent application. Claims 1, 9, 15, 18, 20, 23 and 25 are independent claims.

Applicant has canceled claims 1-8, 10, 13, 19, 22-24 and 29.

The examiner indicated that claims 9, 11, 12, 14-18, 20, 21 and 25-28 are allowed.

It is believed that all of the pending claims have been addressed. However, the absence of a reply to a specific rejection, issue or comment does not signify agreement with or concession of that rejection, issue or comment. In addition, because the arguments made above may not be exhaustive, there may be reasons for patentability of any or all pending claims (or other claims) that have not been expressed. Finally, nothing in this paper should be construed as an intent to concede any issue with regard to any claim, except as specifically stated in this paper, and the amendment of any claim does not necessarily signify concession of unpatentability of the claim prior to its amendment.

Please apply any charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: _____

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